

CHADDERTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

For the Year 1911.

HENRY HOYLE,
Clerk to the Council.

Town Hall, Chadderton,
May, 1912.

OLDHAM :

W. E. CLEGG, PRINTER, STATIONER, ETC., 30, MARKET PLACE.

CHADDERTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

								1911
Area in statute acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,082
Population (Census) 1911	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28,305
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census) 1911	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,358
Average Number of Persons per house	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.45
Nett Births	{ Males, 347 }		{ Females, 367 }		Total...	...	...	714
during 1911								
Nett Deaths	...	{ Males, 242 }		{ Females, 221 }		Total...	...	463
	...							
Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25.2
Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.3
Infantile Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	141
Zymotic Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.61

Medical Officer's Annual Report.

To the Chairman and Members of the Chadderton District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

During the year 1911, 403 deaths were registered in Chadderton. In addition, the following deaths occurred in public institutions outside the district:—

Oldham Union Workhouse	...	...	31
Oldham Royal Infirmary	...	...	12
Westhulme Fever Hospital	...	...	1
Royal Albert Asylum, Lancaster	...		3
Pendlebury Children's Hospital	..		1

and 12 other deaths of Chadderton persons outside the district were also ascertained, making 60 deaths in all, which are taken into account in calculating the nett death rate.

Six deaths occurred in Chadderton of non-residents, and these have been assigned to their proper districts.

The nett deaths belonging to the district were 463, of whom 242 were males, and 221 females.

The corrected or nett death rate was 16·3 per thousand of the population per annum, the average of the last ten years being 18.

The number of births registered during the year was 710, and 4 children were born outside the district, but are really

Chadderton children, making a total of 714, of whom 347 were boys and 367 girls. 28 of the births were illegitimate.

The birth rate was 25·2, the average of the previous 10 years being 27·7.

The birth and death rates are calculated on the population according to the census of 1911, viz.: 28,305.

The “natural increase” of population found by subtracting the deaths from the births was 251.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age :—

Certified 97

Uncertified 4

Total ... 101

6 of these infants were of illegitimate birth.

The infantile death rate, *i.e.*, the number of deaths under 1 year of age per every thousand births, was 141.

The deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases for the last five years were as follows :—

	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911
Smallpox 	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever 	2	2	5	2	3
Diphtheria 	11	5	9	2	1
Enteric Fever 	1	2	1	4	2
Measles 	13	23	9	15	14
Whooping Cough 	15	3	5	22	8
Diarrhœa 	10	25	8	6	47*
Total 	52	60	37	51	75
Zymotic Death Rate... 	1·92	2·19	1·30	1·80	2·61

* In tables for last year and future years deaths from gastro-enteritis, &c., at all ages, are included under the heading of diarrhœa.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following Table gives the infectious cases reported during the last five years (excluding Chicken Pox):—

	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911
Smallpox	0	0	0	5	1
Diphtheria	28	14	21	12	13
Erysipelas... ..	11	10	31	5	20
Scarlet Fever	68	55	65	146	60
Enteric Fever	8	12	2	8	11
Puerperal Fever	1	0	4	0	1

The case of Smallpox was the last of a small outbreak at the end of 1910. It was treated in Cinder Hill Hospital and recovered.

SCARLET FEVER.

This was not so prevalent as in the previous 12 months, as will be seen by the above table. It was worst in the early part of the year.

The cases of Enteric Fever occurred mostly in the Autumn, as was the case in England and Wales generally.

The hot and dry weather experienced last Summer probably had a causal influence on the epidemic of diarrhoea, which caused 1 death in July, 30 in August, 7 in September, 1 in October, and 2 in November. Handbills were distributed to all householders recommending certain measures to prevent this disease.

One case of Puerperal Fever was reported. These cases are investigated by an Inspector of Midwives, sent by the County Medical Officer, who is informed by me.

Two cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified. Both were under the care of a medical practitioner, so no action was taken.

ISOLATION IN HOSPITAL.

One case of Diphtheria, 6 of Enteric Fever, and 4 of Scarlet Fever were treated in Westhulme Hospital (Oldham). One case of Scarlet Fever proved fatal.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The arrangements for the above, which have been in force for some years with the Public Health Laboratory of Victoria University, are still continued.

The following specimens were examined:—Swabs from the throat for the bacillus of diphtheria, 3. Results: Positive, 1; Negative, 2. Blood for typhoid reaction, 7. Results: Positive, 3; Negative, 4. Sputum for Tubercle Bacillus, 4. Results: Positive, 2; Negative, 2. Serum from a suspected malignant pustule for Anthrax Bacillus, 1. Result: Negative.

It was decided to supply, under the Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order, 1910, free Anti-diphtheritic Serum to medical practitioners, and this is now being done.

Measles were prevalent, chiefly in the first quarter and in December, and caused 14 deaths. Whooping Cough also appeared at the same time, causing 8 deaths.

PREVENTION OF EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

The following measures were taken for the above purpose. In the case of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, the patient was isolated as far as practicable at home, and all other children excluded from School till the case was free from infection, and the house had been fumigated with Sulphur. This method has hitherto proved satisfactory, very few "return" cases having occurred. Still there have been a few, and if a Steam Disinfector were provided for infected bedding and clothing, the risk would be reduced to a minimum. Even in the case of patients treated in hospital, we have had one or two "return" cases from some cause unknown.

In the case of Enteric Fever, if treated at home the excreta are placed in a can which is supplied for the purpose, and afterwards mixed with disinfectants, the can and its contents subsequently being buried. The children of the same family are not excluded from School, this not being considered necessary.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH CONTACTS.

All children of an infected family who have not had the disease are excluded from School, and all who attend the Infant School are excluded whether they have had it previously or not, but older children who have previously suffered are admitted. This rule however is not uniformly adhered to, as in many cases the patient is not properly isolated, but lies in the living-room downstairs, where the other children take their meals. Besides, it is quite frequent for children to take measles twice or three times. As to school closure, a more uniform system might be adopted. At present, each town or urban district uses its own method of procedure, which is perhaps widely different from methods prevailing in the neighbouring districts. The plan followed in Chadderton has been to order closure where a considerable number of cases have been reported at a school, and there has been reason to suppose that the disease was acquired in the school, especially if there is rapid extension or if the disease is of a severe type. There is no doubt whatever that measles is commonly spread by children attending school in the early stages of the disease, when the rash has not yet appeared and the symptoms are confined to coughing, sneezing, suffused eyes, &c. Of course the teachers have instructions to exclude children with these symptoms during an epidemic, but they can hardly be expected to form a correct diagnosis in every case, so that the only reliable method of limiting the epidemic appears to be closure of the department affected, or of the whole school.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

The Township of Chadderton covers an area of 3,082 statute acres. It adjoins on the north-east side, the district of Royton; on the east, the borough of Oldham; on the south and south-west, Failsworth and Manchester; and on the west, the borough of Middleton. It is a somewhat hilly district, and being at a lower level, would naturally receive much of the surface water from Oldham. A small river, the Irk, flows through the western part of the district, and this is subject to contamination by the effluent from various works, such as bleach works, and by the drainage of various small villages in this and other districts. Efforts have been made to prevent contamination, the drainage from Chadderton Fold now being diverted into a sewer.

The inhabitants of the district are mostly employed in the cotton spinning and weaving industries, and in the manufacture of machinery for cotton spinning, &c., and there are also some collieries, a dye works and a bleach works.

The fact of many of the women being employed in the cotton mills, leads to the early weaning and artificial feeding of numbers of infants.

The dust arising during certain processes of cotton manufacture has, I believe, a tendency to cause bronchial complaints amongst the workers, and the great heat necessary for the spinning of yarn causes a sensitiveness to chills amongst those employed in the spinning rooms of cotton mills.

The workmen's houses are mostly four or six-roomed cottages, the newer ones being supplied with waste water closets, enclosed yards, and sometimes bathrooms.

GENERAL SANITARY CONDITIONS.

The water supply is from the Oldham Corporation's reservoirs. The water is very pure and soft, and exerts some solvent action on lead pipes, but marked cases of plumbism are rare. The sewage of the district is treated in the works at Slack's Valley by precipitation with alumino-ferric, &c.

DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

A destructor has been built at Slack's Valley and is in working order, so the complaints of nuisance from the various tips formerly in use should now cease.

Number of water closets constructed during the year :—

For New Buildings—

Waste-Water Closets	76
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Water Closets	9
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Conversion of Pail Closets—

Waste-Water Closets	478
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Water Closets	344
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Total	907
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Total number of Water Closets in the district :—

Waste-Water Closets	2120
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Water Closets	1124
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Total	3244
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SEWERING AND PAVING OF PRIVATE STREETS,

UNDER THE PRIVATE STREET WORKS ACT, 1892.

Streets Completed during the year ending 31st December, 1911 :—

Taylor Street.

Gaythorne Street (sewered only).

Union Street.

Rose Street.

Whitehead Street.

Charles Street (part of).

Street leading to Rose Mill.

Back Brook Street.

Passages Completed :—

Passage behind Old Lane.

Passage between Wilton Street and
Hardman Street (part of).

Passages Sewered only :—

Passage between Stanley Street and
Victoria Street (from 39, Victoria
St. to Radclyffe St.)

Passage between Stanley Street and
Victoria Street (from Radclyffe
St. to Ogden St.)

Passage between Victoria Street and
Granville Street (from Bentley
St. to Radclyffe St.) No. 1.

Passage between Victoria Street and
Granville Street (from Bentley
St. to Radclyffe St.) No. 2.

Passage between Victoria Street and
Granville Street (from Bentley
St. to Radclyffe St.) No. 3.

Passage between Hamilton Street
and Taylor Street.

Passage behind Middleton Road (from
Butterworth St. to Park St.)

Passage between Granville Street and
Garforth Street (from Bentley
St. to Radclyffe St.)

Passage behind Middleton Road
(from No. 757, Middleton Rd. to
Hunt Lane).

Works in Progress :—

Derby Street.

Engine Street.

Gorton Street.

Whiteley Street.

Bourne Street.

Wharf Street.

Hercules Green.

Passage alongside Railway (Middle-
ton Junction.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

During the year 29 notices regarding nuisances were sent out, and 25 of the latter have been abated. 175 notices of defective sanitary cans were sent out, and 130 have been replaced by new ones.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT.

19 houses have been inspected.

CANAL BOATS.

14 were inspected. 6 wide, 4 steam, 4 narrow, and all were found satisfactory and in accordance with the Act.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

71 visits were paid to factories and 15 to workshops, when some were found not to be in accordance with the Act, but have since been made right.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

84 were made, and a number of reports sent to the owners of the excessive amount of black smoke emitted. One firm was served with statutory notice to abate the nuisance. In several cases improvement has followed the action taken.

The time limit allowed per half-hour for the emission of black smoke is as follows :—

1 or 2 Boilers—2 minutes.

3 ,, 3 ,,

4 or more ,, 4 ,,

12 notices have been sent out requiring the owners to provide extra closet accommodation, of which 3 have been, and others are about to be, complied with.

I append the usual tables of Vital Statistics and cases of Infectious Disease.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

H. ASHTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Chadderton Urban District.—Table 1. Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1911 and Previous Years.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each year	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS †		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Un- corrected Number	NETT.		Number *	Rate	of Non- residents registered in the District	of Resi- dents not registered in the District	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate					Number *	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1906	26600	744	...	28.0	436	16.3	...	46	87	117	482	18.1
1907	27000	779	...	28.8	467	17.3	...	49	130	166	516	19.1
1908	27400	788	...	28.7	433	15.8	...	41	116	147	474	17.3
1909	27800	821	...	29.5	397	14.2	...	51	85	103	448	16.1
1910	28200	723	...	25.6	414	14.6	...	51	110	152	465	16.4
1911	28305 (Census)	710	714	25.2	403	14.2	6	60	101	141	463	16.3

NOTES.—This Table is arranged to show the gross births and deaths in the district, and the births and deaths properly belonging to it with the corresponding rates. For years before 1911 some of the corrected rates probably will not be available. The rates should be calculated per 1000 of the estimated gross population. In a district in which large Public Institutions for the sick or infirm seriously affect the statistics, the rates in Columns 5 and 13 may be calculated on a nett population, obtained by deducting from the estimated gross population the average number of inmates not belonging to the district in such institutions.

* In Column 6 are to be included the whole of the deaths registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district.

In Column 12 is to be entered the number in Column 6, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 8 and by addition of the number in Column 9. Deaths in Column 10 are to be similarly corrected by subtraction of the deaths under 1, included in the number given in Column 8, and by addition of the deaths under 1 included in the number given in Column 9.

† “Transferable Deaths” are deaths of persons who, having a fixed or usual residence in England or Wales, die in a district other than that in which they resided. The deaths of persons without fixed or usual residence, *e.g.*, casuals, must not be included in Columns 8 or 9, except in certain instances under 3 (b) below. The Medical Officer of Health will state in Column 8 the number of transferable deaths of “non-residents” which are to be deducted, and will state in Column 9 the number of deaths of “residents” registered outside the district which are to be added in calculating the nett death-rate of his district.

The following special cases arise as to Transferable Deaths :—

(1) Persons dying in Institutions for the sick or infirm, such as hospitals, lunatic asylums, workhouses, and nursing homes (but not almshouses) must be regarded as residents of the district in which they had a fixed or usual residence at the time of admission. If the person dying in an Institution had no fixed residence at the time of admission, the death is not transferable. If the patient has been directly transferred from one such institution to another, the death is transferable to the district of residence at the time of admission to the first Institution.

(2) The deaths of infants born and dying within a year of birth in an Institution to which the mother was admitted for her confinement should be referred to the district of fixed or usual residence of the parent.

(3) Deaths from Violence are to be referred (a) to the district of residence, under the general rule ; (b) if this district is unknown, or the deceased had no fixed abode, to the district where the accident occurred, if known ; (c) failing this, to the district where death occurred, if known ; and (d) failing this, to the district where the body was found.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 3,082. Total population at all ages 28,305.
Number of inhabited houses, 6,358. Average number of persons per house, 4.45.

CHADDERTON URBAN DISTRICT.—Table II.
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1911.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.										TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY			Total cases rem'vd to Hosp'tl
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years												
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	North Ward	Central Ward	South Ward			
Small-pox	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)...	13	3	9	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	20	...	1	1	13	5	...	...	5	4	4	1
Scarlet Fever	60	25	27	5	3	...	...	...	21	20	19	4
Typhus Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	11	...	2	3	5	1	...	...	4	4	3	6
Relapsing Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Totals	108	2	28	40	10	22	6	...	38	40	30	12		

Isolation Hospitals	{ Cinder Hill, Chadderton. Westhulme Hospital, Oldham.	Total available Beds, 24 for Small-pox. No. of Diseases that can be concurrently treated, 3.
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Chadderton Urban District.—Table III.
Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1911.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS," WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or of "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District
	ALL AGES	Under 1 Year	1 and under 2 Years	2 and under 5 Years	5 and under 15 Years	15 and under 25 Years	25 and under 45 Years	45 and under 65 Years	65 and upwards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All Causes { Certified	455	97	25	23	17	24	65	115	89	
Uncertified	8	4	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	
Enteric Fever	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Small-Pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	14	3	8	3	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	3	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough... ..	8	4	1	2	1	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup... ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Influenza	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	31	...	...	2	1	7	12	7	2	
Tuberculosis Meningitis	10	2	1	2	4	...	...	1	...	
Other Tuberculous Diseases	5	1	1	...	1	1	1	...	...
Rheumatic Fever... ..	4	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	
Cancer, malignant disease	29	...	...	...	...	...	5	16	8	
Bronchitis	32	9	2	...	1	...	2	7	11	
Broncho-Pneumonia	14	7	3	2	...	...	1	1	...	
Pneumonia (all other forms)	21	2	2	1	...	4	3	7	2	
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs	5	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	47	32	5	2	...	1	...	2	5	
Appendicitis and Typhlitis... ..	3	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...
Alcoholism ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	21	1	...	...	...	...	5	12	3	
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accident and diseases of Pregnancy and Partu- rition	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Congenital, Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	26	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	14	...	...	2	...	1	5	4	2	
Suicides	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	
Other Defined Diseases	139	12	2	5	7	5	24	48	36	
Diseases ill-defined or un- known	26	2	...	...	...	...	3	2	19	
	463	101	25	23	17	24	66	117	90	0

Chadderton Urban District—Table IV.

INFANT MORTALITY—*Nett Deaths from stated causes at various
Ages under 1 Year of Age, 1911.*

CAUSE OF DEATH				Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
All Causes	{	Certified ...	...	17	2	1	3	23	21	27	14	12	97
		Uncertified ...	...	1	...	...	..	1	.	2	1	...	4
Small-Pox ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-Pox ...				...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...				...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	3
Scarlet Fever ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...				...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	4
Diarrhœa . . .				...	...	...	...	...	1	6	5	2	14
Enteritis ...				1	...	1	...	2	5	8	...	3	18
Tuberculous Meningitis ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...				...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations ...				...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Premature Births ...				10	1	...	...	11	1	...	...	...	12
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...				7	...	...	1	8	4	1	...	...	13
Atelectasis ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis ...				...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Rickets ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
Convulsions ...				...	1	...	...	1	2	1	3	2	9
Gastritis ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngitis ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ...				...	...	..	1	1	1	4	3	...	9
Pneumonia (all forms) ...				...	...	...	...	...	2	5	1	1	9
Suffocation, overlying ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes ...				...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	3
				18	2	1	3	24	21	29	15	12	101

Nett Births in the year	{ legitimate	686.
	{ illegitimate	28.

Nett Deaths in the year of	legitimate infants	95.
	illegitimate infants	6.